

Message Text

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71

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11

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EB/ OA: MR. MEADOWS (SUBS)

----- 108644

O 042146 Z APR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRN, UR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR- PANAM CHARTERS

REF: MOSCOW 3491

1. IN TELEPHONE CONVERSATION EVENING OF APRIL 3, SOVIET EMBASSY DCM VORONTSOV INFORMED DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARMITAGE THAT APPROVAL HAS BEEN GIVEN FOR PANAM TO OPERATE CHARTER FLIGHTS, PROVIDED THE OFFICIAL REQUEST IS SUBMITTED THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS AND PROVIDED THAT 747 REPEAT 747 AIRCRAFT ARE NOT REPEAT NOT USED. (PANAM HAS BEEN ASSURED, HOWEVER, THAT ANY NUMBER OF SMALLER AIRCRAFT WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE. WE UNDERSTAND PANAM IS CURRENTLY WORKING OUT ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS WHICH MAY RESULT IN USE OF AIRCRAFT SUCH AS 727 REPEAT 727 FROM HELSINKI.)

2. SUGGEST EMBASSY COORDINATE WITH PANAM REPRESENTATIVE IN MOSCOW FOR PROMPT FORMAL FILING WITH SOVIETS- AT EMBASSY'S LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DISCRETION YOU MAY WISH TO POINT OUT TO SOVIETS THAT PANAM'S PROPOSED USE OF 747'S TO MOSCOW FOR THESE FLIGHTS WOULD CONSTITUTE A UNIQUE PROGRAM WHICH WOULD CLEARLY NOT ESTABLISH A PRECEDENT FOR FUTURE OPERATIONS. ADDITIONALLY, PANAM IS CONVINCED THAT USE OF 747'S TO MOSCOW IS OPERATIONALLY AND TECHNICALLY SOUND. (SOVIETS HAVE QUESTIONED TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY OF USING 747'S FOR THIS CHARTER PROGRAM.)

3. FYI: IN TELEPHONING APPROVAL, VORONTSOV SAID THAT SOVIETS WANT PANAM TO SUPPORT INCREASE IN FREQUENCIES FOR AEROFLOT OPERATIONS TO US. WE UNDERSTAND THAT PANAM HAS ALREADY MADE A GENERAL STATEMENT TO THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON CONCERNING ITS WILLINGNESS TO SUGGEST THAT THE US GOVERNMENT CONSIDER POSSIBLE FUTURE CHANGES IN THE LEVEL OF FREQUENCIES. END FYI. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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